



## Madeleine Blackburn

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Congratulations and welcome to Magdalen!

I'm Maddie, President of the JCR (Magdalen's undergraduate community) which you automatically become a member of when you join in October. More importantly, I am extremely excited to be welcoming you during Freshers' Week - as is everyone else. I hope that, after reading some of the information you have been sent, you won't need much convincing that you are likely to be about to embark on some of the most exciting, formative and rewarding three or four years of your life.

Before you get here, there is a bit of administration to get through. Try not to be too intimidated or stressed out by the abundance of information contained in this pack. Just set aside a little time, fill out the forms and make sure you send in your photo. If you are unsure about anything, email the College and someone will be able to help you, or get in contact with me by email.

For any questions about student life, academic work and/or settling in once you arrive, please do reach out to our amazing Freshers' Reps (Sophie Lyne, Michael Daly, David Moisob, Katherine Graddy, and Carissa Pham) or to myself.

In other good news, the Freshers' Reps have been busy allocating you a College family: at least one college 'sibling' from your own year, as well as second-year undergraduate 'parents' who are already at Magdalen and study your subject. They should help you settle in and offer advice on any nuances about life at Oxford. Your College parents will hopefully have written you a letter, which will be sent shortly; do take a moment to read through that and use them as a point of contact.

After you've arrived and had Freshers' Week, myself and other volunteers in the JCR Committee will be hosting a few events to hopefully get to know everyone a bit better and introduce ourselves and our roles in more detail. Keep an eye out for Facebook posts and emails to follow - really looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the first few weeks of term!

That's it for now! Don't worry if you feel slightly daunted by the prospect of starting at Magdalen; remember that we have all been where you are now and experience suggests that no matter who you are, where you're from or what you're interested in, you will have a fantastic time at Magdalen.

Finally, to reiterate, arguably *the* most important part of my role is to be available to all undergraduates at Magdalen, whatever their needs. I am glad that this now includes you and can't wait to meet you all when you arrive. On that note, please let me know if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns and I'll do my best to help out before and after you arrive!

I am looking forward to seeing you in October and hope you have a lovely summer break.

All the best,

Maddie